

**Amendments to the Claims**

Claims 1-27 (Canceled)

Claim 28 (New): A method of identifying an agent capable of modulating GD domain mediated heterodimerization, comprising:

carrying out a heterodimerization assay which includes a first and a second protein or polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 35-41, wherein said first and second protein or polypeptide are different, and an agent;

determining whether said agent inhibits or augments heterodimerization of said first protein or polypeptide to said second protein or polypeptide;

wherein if inhibition or augmentation or heterodimerization is determined, it indicates that said agent is capable of modulating GD domain mediated heterodimerization.

Claim 29 (New): A method of identifying an agent capable of modulating GD domain mediated homodimerization, comprising:

carrying out a homodimerization assay which includes a first and a second protein or polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 35-41, wherein said first and second protein or polypeptide are the same, and an agent;

determining whether said agent inhibits or augments homodimerization of said first protein or polypeptide to said second protein or polypeptide;

wherein if inhibition or augmentation of homodimerization is determined, it indicates that said agent is capable of modulating GD domain mediated homodimerization.

Claim 30 (New): The method of claim 28, wherein said first and second protein or polypeptide are independently proteins or polypeptides of Bak, Bcl-x<sub>L</sub>, Bax, or Bip1a.

**Claim 31 (New):** The method of claim 30, wherein the first protein or polypeptide is a protein or polypeptide of Bak.

**Claim 32 (New):** The method of claim 31, wherein the first protein or polypeptide is a protein or polypeptide of Bak selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 35, 36, 37, and 38.

**Claim 33 (New):** The method of claim 32, wherein the second protein or polypeptide is selected from proteins or polypeptides of Bcl-x<sub>L</sub>, Bax, and Bip1a.

**Claim 34 (New):** The method of claim 33, wherein the second protein or polypeptide is a protein or polypeptide of Bcl-x<sub>L</sub> having SEQ ID NO: 39.

**Claim 35 (New):** The method of claim 33, wherein the second protein or polypeptide is a protein or polypeptide of Bax having SEQ ID NO: 40.

**Claim 36 (New):** The method of claim 33, wherein the second protein or polypeptide is selected from a protein or polypeptide of Bip1a having SEQ ID NO: 41.

**Claim 37 (New):** The method of claim 29, wherein said first and second protein or polypeptide are selected from proteins or polypeptides of Bak, Bcl-x<sub>L</sub>, Bax, or Bip1a.

**Claim 38 (New):** The method of claim 37, wherein said first and second protein or polypeptide are proteins or polypeptides of Bak.

**Claim 39 (New):** The method of claim 38, wherein said first and second protein or polypeptide are selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 35, 36, 37, and 38.